MEW YORK REPAIR MUDAY MAY 18, 1862

## NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

taken.

THE DALLY HERALD, two cents per copy. 37 per asmun
THE WEEKLY HERALD, every Saturday, it six cents go of a saved per copy. 38 per asmun; the European Relition every Wednesdo as according per copy. 38 per assurem to may part of Great Bellion of 36 12 to any part of the Continent, both to include postage; taking a bellion on the late of each month, at ents per copy, or \$2.75 per annule.
THE PAMILY HERALD, on Wednesday, at four cents per VOLUNTARY CORRESPONDENCE, containing important ness, solicited from any quarter of the would; if used, will be liberally paid for. BFOUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS ARE PARTICLARLY REQUESTED TO SEAL ALL LETTERS AND PACK NO NOTICE taken of ananymous correspondence. We do not cturn rejected communications,
ADVENTISEMENTS renewed every day; advertisements in a ted in the Weekly Herand, Family Herand, and in the ifornia and European Editions.
OB PRINTING executed with neutness, heapness and des-

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

MIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.-THE ENCHANTRESS. WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.-THE STRANGER-THE WALLACE'S THEATRE, 844 Broadway. -THE LADY OF LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE, Broadway .- SEA OF ICE.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, BOWERY. -SPIRIT FRIEND BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM. Broadway.—Com.
NOTT.—Living Whate, Doc. Show, &c., at all hours.—
FLOWERS OF THE FORE T, afternoon and evening.

BRYANTS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall.-472 Brond GAIETIES MUSIC HALL, 616 Broadway .- DRAWING PEOPLE'S MUSIC HALL, 45 Bowery.-SELECT CONCERT NOVELTY MUSIC HALL, 616 Broadway. -- SQUEEN MUSI-

PARISIAN CABINET OF WONDERS, 563 Broadway. -New York, Friday, May 16, 1862.

THE SITUATION.

The War Department received despatches yester day from the armies of Gen. McClellan and Gen. Halleck, to the effect that preparations were being made in both directions for some highly important movements. Gen. McClellan has established his headquarters at Cumberland, a pleasant town on the banks of the Pamunkey river. The advance guard, under command of Gen. Stoneman, is within sight of the enemy's position at White House.

General Hunter has issued a proclamation declaring all the slaves in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina free. It appears from recent news that the attempt to enlist negroes as volunteers has proved a complete failure. The emancipation of the slaves in the above States is based by General Hunter on the idea that martial law and slavery in a free country are incompatible.

A despatch received in Chicago yesterday from Pittsburg Landing, states that the disaffection among the rebel army is demonstrating itself in a very forcible manner. On Monday last two regiments from Tennessee and Kentucky made an attempt to come over to the Union army, and a positive mutiny in General Beauregard's army was the result. The advance from our lines went over in force to aid the disaffected rebel soldiers

and succeeded in bringing off some sixty of them. We publish an article to-day from the Charleston Courier of an extraordinary and most significant character, admitting the hopelessness of the rebel cause, and acknowledging that the misfor tunes which have befallen the rebellious States are not more than their iniquities deserve.

## CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday, the Territorial Committee reported back the House bill to provide a temporary government for Arizona. The same committee also reported back the bill amending the act for the government of Colorado by absolute, and the bill passed. The House bill prohibiting slavery in the Territories was also reported back, with an amendment which changes the language of the bill to that of the ordinance of 1787. The report of the Committee of Conference on the bill authorizing a railroad from Washington to Georgetown was agreed to. A communica tion was received from the President, recommending a vote of thanks to Flag Officer Farragut and the officers and men of the fleet under his command, for gallantry in the bat tle with the forts and gunboats on the Mississipp and in the capture of New Orleans. A resolution was offered, which lies over, inquiring of the Sec retary of the Navy as to the number of iron-clad vessels under contract, the character of their ar mament, and when they will be ready for service A resolution was also offered inquiring as to the rights and obligations of the United States and Great Britain to keep armaments on the Northern lakes. The Indian Appropriation bill was dis cussed, but no action taken on it. The death of Mr. Goldsmith F. Bailey, a member of the House of Representatives from Massachusetts, was an nounced, the customary resolutions of respect and condolence adopted, and the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, the bill for the adjudication of claims of loyal citizens for loss property and damages done thereto by the troops of the United States during the rebellion was taken up, discussed, and the subject postponed till Monday week. A bill establishing a coinage depart ment in the New York Assay Office was ordered be printed and recommitted to the Committee or Commerce. The Sunate bill authorizing the appointment of medical storekeepers and hospita chaplains was passed. The report of the Confer-Committee on the Homestead bill was accepted. The Senate bill setting apart ten per cent of the taxes paid by colored persons in the District of Columbia for the education of colored children was passed. Also the Senate bill requiring voters in the District whose loyalty is quesed to take the oath of allegiance. The death of Mr. Goldsmith F. Bailey, of Massachusetts, wa announced. Eulogies were delivered by Messrs. Thomas, Train, Eliot and Ashley. The customary ions were adopted, and the House adjourned.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The steamship Great Eastern, which was to have left Milford-Haven, England, on the 6th inst., is now due at this port. Her news will be two days later than the advices of the Niagara. To-day the third humiliation, prayer and fast

day will be observed by those who acknowledge es the subjects and servants of Jeff. Davis. The sick and wounded soldiers in the West are that recovering, and already they begin to return to their regiments at Pittsburg Landing. The Evansville (Indiana) Journal says crowds of them are daily passing through that city for the battle

The raffroad bridge over the Cumberland river, at Nashville, which the rebels nearly destroyed when they evacuated that city, is being repaired. It was one of the finest bridges in the country.

The Richmond Whig says:-" We have fought the enemy on his own ground-let him now meet as on curz." Notone drop of blood has yet been former brethren, of people of the same race good service to the enemy in their premature

spilled, in this unnatural war, on free soil. The Whig is getting delirious.

At the meeting of the Board of Aldermen yester. day, a communication was received from th Mayor suggesting some suitable acknowledgment to Mr. Henry B. Dawson, of Morrisania, for fur nishing authentic information relative to the Fi nance Department of the city from the year 1777 to 1783, or during the period of the occupancy of the city by the British forces. It was announce that an ordinance would be reported at the next meeting appropriating another half million dol

ars for the relief of the families of volunteers. The proceedings of the Board of Councilme yesterday evening will be read with some inte rest, as they have reference to important local matters which have not engaged the attention o the Board for some time. The subject in refe rence to the appropriation fund, as well as the voting \$500 for the benefit of the returned wound ed and sick soldiers, will meet with the full appro bation of the public, as well as every lover o Union cause. It will also be seen that the Common Council have determined to invite Rev. Mr Brownlow to partake of their hospitalities.

The Committee on Advertising and Printing the Board of Aldermen met yesterday afternoon in the City Hall to consider the subject of the pre sent expense and future regulation of the munici pal advertisements. A number of communica tions from what are termed the "Corporation papers" and other journals were read in reply to circular sent out from the committee. The writer stated the circulation of each paper, with an esti mate of what the work would be done for in future per line. Two "Corporation papers"—the Express and Metropolitan Record-did not reply to the letter of the committee up to the time of its ad.

journment, The Committee of the Board of Councilmen on City Railroads met yesterday, when the complaints which have been made against the Harlem Railroad Company, in reference to the state of their track in Centre street, were inquir ed into, and, after some discussion, laid over for further consideration. The petition of the inhabitants of the upper part of the city, requiring the Hudson River Railroad Company to slacken the speed of their trains while running between Thirtieth and Fifty-second streets, was again brough up. Several of the engineers and conductors were examined, who testified that they had never run over that distance in a less time than eight minutes Public records had also been consulted, by which it appears that about two-thirds more people have been killed below Thirtieth street, where horse power is used, than above that point, where steam power is used. The matter was finally laid over and made the special order of business for the next meeting of the committee, on Monday next at two o'clock.

The Joint Special Committee of the Common Council on National Affairs met in the City Hall yesterday. The resolution adopted by the Common Council in September, 1856, recommending that a Post Office be established at or near the junction of Broadway and Sixth avenue, for the convenience of the inhabitants in the upper part of the city, was brought up. The committee reported unanimously in favor of the proposed of fice, and recommended that it be brought under the notice of the Postmaster General at Washington. A sub-committee of five was appointed to draw up an ordinance showing in what way relief can be provided for the families of volunteers now at the seat of war. The committee then adjourned until Monday next at three o'clock.

In the matter of Robert W. Butler and John Lee, arrested for violating the Concert Saloon act, who were brought before Recorder Hoffman on a writ of habeas corpus, his Honor decided yes terday that the writ of habeas corpus should be dismissed, and that the defendants should be remanded. Messrs. Brady and Byrne will bring the sed, and that the defendants should be re case before the Supreme Court, and if unsuccess ful there, will carry it to the Court of Appeals The Grand Jury of the General Sessions vesterday indicted Mr. Butler for a violation of the Concert Saloon law, and, having proucred bail, he was per mitted to leave until the trial takes place.

Stocks were better yesterday, with the exception of governments, which seem to have reached their limit for the present. The favorite stocks of the day are th thoaper railway shares, which are supposed to represen

Exchange was steady at 113% a 114. Gold 103% The sales of cotton yesterday footed up, in small lots, about 450 bales, closing on the basis of 27c. a 27%c. for holders asked 28c. The flour market exhibited but little change from the quotations of the previous day. Comme while the higher qualities were irregular. The sales were to a fair extent. Wheat was less buoyant in price, while the demand was steady and sales tolerably active, in part for export. Corn was rather firmer, with sales of Western nixed at 52c. a 53c., in store and delivered. Pork was heavy and dull. Sales of mess were made at \$12 625 and at \$12 87% for heavy barrels, and at \$9 87% a \$10 for prime. Beef and lard were firm. Sugars were steady and in good request, with sales of about 1,100 hids. and xes at full prices. Coffee was in steady reques with sales of 1.070 bags Santos by private sale and 900 do. do. by suction—the latter at 19c. a 2414c. Freights were firm, and engagements made to a fair extent at ful

The Last Standpoints of the Rebellion Richmond and Corinth-What is Our Policy?

The concentration of the rebellion at two points-Richmond and Corinth-leaves the ederal government completely master of the situation. Nothing but impatience, or too great sensitiveness to newspaper criticism on the part of our generals, can possibly deprive it of this advantage. At both these places the rebels are being closely surrounded and their commu nications with their sources of supply cut off On Richmond McDowell is advancing from the north. Banks from the northwest. McClellan from the southeast. Fremont from the west and Burnside from the south. Our gunboats, besides, command all the water approaches to the city. At Corinth the position of things is equally satisfactory. Whilst on the east Beauregard's force is completely hemmed in by Halleck's main army, Pope and Mitchel are operating further south, cutting off all his raiload communications. To the north of him General Lew. Wallace is also in movement blocking up the avenues of escape in that direction; and due south is the force under General Butler. Between Farragut and Davis the river communications of the enemy are reduced to a very small range, and the surrender or destruction of his few remaining gunboats is only a question of days. Situated thus at his last points of resistance, and where he has staked everything on this new policy of concentration, only two alternatives remain oper to him-that of giving battle under heavy disadvantage, or of seeing his armies demoralized and wasted away.

What is the true policy of our generals under these circumstances? There are assembled at Richmond and Corinth armies amounting in the aggregate to considerably over half a million of men. Humanity shudders at the prospect of the slaughter that must ensue from a conflict between such immense hosts. Most people will agree with us in the opinion that it is the duty of the federal commanders to spare the effusion of blood as far as is consistent with the interests entrusted to them. It should be borne in mind that the blood thus shed will not be that of men who are strangers to each other, but of

and nationality. To spare ourselves the after reflections resulting from such events, we can afford to wait a little longer. Nothing presses us to burry on an engagement at either of the points at which the rebels have decided to make their final stand. Norfolk, Beaufort, Port Royal and New Orleans are in our possession, Mobile is invested, and before another fortnight is over Savannah and Charleston will also be ours. We can then bid defiance, both legally and materially, to any schemes of interference which the European governments may choose to engage in against us. With the fleet of iron-clad vessels that we shall have at our disposal, England and France will not dare to attack us. We can therefore afford to adopt the course that humanity, good policy and regard for the opinion of the world dictate. By precipitating battles at the two places named, we risk, in case of a disaster, the indefinite protraction of the war. By enclosing the Confederates within a network from which they cannot escape, and starving them into submission, we gain two objects which the country would be gratified to eccomplish—that of sparing the further effusion of blood and capturing and punishing the rebel leaders. This line of policy cannot be entrusted to better hands than those of Generala McClellan and Halleck. If the government consults the interests and feelings of the country it will support them in pursuing it.

Spoils of the War-The Tribune Owns that the Herald "Is Constantly Ahead.

We have received many curious spoils from the war. Rebel flags, shinplasters, wooden guns, shots and shells, old charters and other mementoes of the rebellion have often been sent to our office. To-day, however, we present our readers with the most curious specimen of all. It is a letter from Mr. S. H. Gay, who has been, since Dana left, the leading editor, under poor Greeley, of the Tribune, to one of his reporters at Yorktown. One of our correspondents-who see everything, hear everything, know everything and find everything-fished this unique epistle out of a pile of rebel documents love letters old title deeds notehooks &c., after the evacuation of Yorktown. We do not know the name of the Tribune reporter to whom it is addressed; but his notes in pencil are on the back of the original letter:-

OFFICE OF THE TRIBUNE, NEW YORK, April 23, 1362.

MY DEAR SER—Mr. Sinclair has gone to ye army before Yorktown to make arrangements to get us ye nows. He will probably see you, & you will act in conjunction with him. will probably see you, & you will act in conjunction with him.
Your sketch of yo battle-ground of ye l6th came just cight days after ye battle. Of course it was uscloss, The core of ye Philadelphia Inquirer had sent one to that paper, which it had bad ongraved & published, which I had also had engraved & published, which I had also had engraved & published three days before yours reached me. I pray you remember ye Tribune is a daily news-paper—or meant to be,—k not a historical record of past events. Correspondence to be of any value must be prompt, fresh, & full of facts. I know how difficult it is, under ye consor-ship to write, but there must be facts enough of general interest all about you to make a daily letter. Yours for to-morrow paper is ye best you have sent us—short & to ye purpose. I should like you to write daily, if only a half, a quarter column, so that ye report of all you may tail be continuous. The curiosity & anxiety about Yorktown is feverish, & ye public like ye paper best that is always giving something. If there is absolutely nothing to write about, drop a line and tell me that. The Husario is constantly ahead of us with Yorktown news. The battle of ye l6th we were compelled to copy from it. Yrs. very truly.

We commend this letter to the attention of

We commend this letter to the attention of the profession and the public. It is a very neat model of a scolding letter. It shows what the Tribune fellows think of themselves, each other, the Tribune and the HERALD. It announces that the "Tribune is a daily newspaper, or meant to be." We are only sorry that its editors and proprietors do not make it what it was "meant to be," not transform it into a dull organ of a gun manufactory. This letter contains, also, an excellent resume of what a correspondent should write. In Mr. Gay's opinion the Tribune correspondents do not come up to the standard, and he has been compelled to "copy from" the HERALD. He directs his reporter, "If there is absolutely nothing to write about, to drop a line and tell him that." This explains why the Tribune's original matter generally tells the public-nothing. Finally, Mr Gay, the leading editor of the Tribune, says :-Yorktown news. The battle of the 16th we were compelled to copy from it." Thank you, Mr. Gay. But why not acknowledge this openly in your editorial columns, and not clandestinely in letters to your reporters? Why not admit the truth, and confess that the HRRALD is constantly ahead of you in everything, and that you are compelled to copy all items of interest from us? Why not be as candid about Beauregard's cypher despatch as about Yorktown Why not make a clean breast of it, and tell how often your "special correspondence" is written up in your office from the HERALD's columns Come, let the Tribune editors be bonest for once, and then give up trying to make a "daily newspaper," or what "is meant to be," and nfine themselves to the gun business exclusively.

EDWIN JAMES AND THE NEW YORK BAR .- We ublish in another column this morning a rather interesting correspondence relative to Mr. Edwin James and his admission to the bar of New York. The gist of the whole matter is that a little clique of lawyers is very auxious to expel Mr. James from the bar, to which be was honorably admitted upon the recommendation of Judge Edmonds, who always consults the spirits before undertaking anything either in law or gospel, and, therefore, knows pretty well what he is about; and, to accomplish this this clique have trumped up the old charges of the English press, that Mr. James borrowed some money some time ago from a noble lord in England, and was unable to pay the debt thus incurred. Now, how many of the fifteen hundred lawyers of New York are able to pay the money they borrow? And how many more would ever repay borrowed money if they could find any one to lend it to them The lawyers may all be respectable men. All of them are members of the bar. Some of them are members of half s dozen bars. Some of them are deacons of churches. Others deliver pious speeches at Sunday School anniversaries. Still, in spite of all these facts, there are but forty or fifty gentlemen out of these fifteen hundred lawyers to whom we would lend ten dollars. with any expectation of ever having it returned. We regard all this fuss about Mr. Edwin James, therefore, as much ado about nothingtempest in a teapot-a mere ebullition of petty spites and jealousies. Mr. James is a very talented man and an able lawyer. He can make money here, in his profession. When he makes money enough he will doubtless pay his English debts, like any other honest lawyer Why, then, should any impediments be placed in his way? Why should he thus be prevented

OUR WESTERN JOURNALS ON THE WAR .-- The newspapers of Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis have been all along, and still are, rendering

from becoming an honest man?

disclosures of the plans and movements of our Western armies, and in this way have become a perfect nuisance to our Western military leaders. Those disobedient and reckless Western newspapers demand a special edict from the War Office. Let them have it.

Debt and Taxation-A Look at the Fu-

Mr. Chase has recently stated that the national debt arising from the present war would amount to six hundred millions of dollars by July 1862. As the expenditure will probably be continued for at least another year, inasmuch as after the rebels are subdued it will be necessary to occupy the Southern States with armies in order to keep them in subjection for a time, and to restore the complete supremacy of the federal laws, the whole debt will then amount to twelve or fifteen hundred millions of dollars. But, assuming that by some unforeseen circumstances, or some mismanagement of the War or Navy Department. the struggle should be prolonged for another year, the debt accumulated in two years from the present time, or in three years from the beginning of the war, will not be less than too thousand millions of dollars. The interest upon that amount will be from five per cent to 7.30, according to the rate and conditions of the securities. The average will be about six per cent, which is nearly double the rate of interest upon the English debt. The interest upon the American debt would thus amount to \$120,000,000. The interest on the English war debt on the 31st of March, 1860, was £24,371,376, or one hundred and twentyone millions of dollars, the debt itself being £742,936,087, or upwards of three thousand seven hundred millions of dollars. Thus then the interest of our war debt in three years will have amounted to about the same as the English debt in three centuries, and we can do as much fighting in one year as John Bull can in a hundred years.

Why are we able to raise such armies and to sustain so vast a debt in so brief a space of time! It is because our country is the greatest in the world, with its resources fresh and untouched, and because we are an energetic people, who go ahead alike in war or peace, and conduct all our affairs on a grand scale commensurate with the vastness of the country. It would break England or any other nation in the world to keep such an army in the field. England will never pay the principal of her debt. She virtually repudiates a pertion of it by lowering the rate of interest from time to time. Not so with the American people. They will pay an average of six per cent interest for their debt till it is completely redeemed by a sinking fund. The inancial effect of these conditions of the debt on prices and property hereafter, will be in the course of a few years to depress to a certain extent all descriptions of real or personal property, but to raise the value of government stocks very rapidly after peace is certain. There will be a great but gradual revolution or reduction in all values of real estate, railroads and bank stocks, but a certain rise in United States government stocks. The taxes about to be imposed by Congress, amounting to ten per cent on the annual value of all the products of land and labor, equal to \$200,000,-000 per annum, will cause these changes and perturbations in value hereafter. Let commerce and trade prepare for an entire new

state of things. This enormous war debt has been originated by the rascality of the politicians at the North and at the South; and now it is unnecessarily and vastly increased by the wholesale plunder ing of the same class of men. The jobberies of the abolition newspapers alone are equal to a million of dollars, of which the gun contracts of the Tribune will foot up half a million. It is increased also needlessly and enormously by the mismanagement of the departments at Washington, for which an account will have to be rendered in the future.

Who will have to pay the principal and the interest of the debt? The industrious people. They will have to pay it in immense taxation which will absorb ten per cent of the whole annual produce of the country; in other words, for every dollar earned by either a rich or a poor man he will have to pay ten cents, and for every hundred dollars ten dollars. Then will be the time and oppor tunity for new parties to spring up and to supersede the old factions forever. It is uscless. herefore, to be now attempting to save the republican party from destruction, or to revamp the shattered democratic party. Both parties are equally corrupt, and both have brought the civil war upon the country for which the people will be so heavily mulcted. A day of reckoning is at hand, and the corrupt politicians of all parties will be swept away like chaff before the whirlwind, or prairie grass before the devouring flame. Their crimes are rapidly accumulating. Their cup of guilt will soon overflow, and then will condign punishment fall swift as lightning upon the heads of those who, in addition to all their other enormities, are now calumniating the magnificent army and brilliant generals who are winning victory after victory over rebellion, and shedding their blood like rain to save the country from the misfortunes which have been brough upon it by the misdeeds of these very poli-

ticians during the last thirty years. Shoving Ir Off .- "Confederate" paper mo ney is becoming a drug in the Southern market, and holders are beginning to "shove it off" in every possible way. In Norfolk they are selling "Confederate" bills as relics of the rebellion; in Richmond they are " shoving them off" for corporation shinplasters; in Memphis at ten cents on the dollar, for lands, jewelry, silverware, &c., and in New Orleans General Butler has allowed the people every possible chance to "shove off" this Confederate trash till otherwise ordered. Let them "shove it off:" for, as the newsboys would say, all hold ers "will be stuck" with the shoving off of Davis & Co. from Richmond.

A NEW BULL PROM THE WAR OFFICE-Secretary Stanton's bulletin against any news to the newspapers of the impending battle at Corinth until it shall have been reported at the War Department. Our republican journals are making wry faces about it. We don't complain. Secretary Stanton may think that news. like wine, improves by age, and we must indulge him in his experiments. We can assure him, however, that the HERALD will still keep ahead of its contemporaries with the news whatever system of transmission he may adopttelegraphs, railways, steamboats, pigeons, couriers, ponies or post coaches. So let the honora riers, ponies or post coaches. So let the honora-ble Secretary go on with his experiments. We are ready for any trial, from a balloon to an army wagon.

MR. SECRETARY WELLES FOR NORFOLK .- The President, the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Treasury having returned from Norfolk and reported the Merrimac out of the way, old Mr. Secretary Welles, of the Navy Department, is going down. No danger now. presume that, after the fashion of the Roman Emperor, who returned from the savage island of Britain with the spoils of some sea shells picked up on the coast, Mr. Welles will return from Norfolk with a shipload of shell fish from Governor Wise's "oyster fundum." Let him send us a barrel, care of Mr. Morgan, and we will pay the commission, and, if the oysters are good, we will give the ancient Secretary a first rate notice as a good judge of oysters.

## NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

OFFICIAL.

WAR GAZETTE. ORDER OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT RELATIVE PASSES—OFFICIAL WAR BULLETIN.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., May 14, 1862. It is ordered that all applications for passes to visit Fortress Monroe, Norfe'k, Yorktown, or other places on the waters of the Chesapeake, be hereafter made to Major General John A. Dix, of Baltimore.

KDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

GENERAL NEWS.

REPORTS FROM GENERAL M'CLELLAN AND GENERAL

The whole community here has been painfully excited o day by rumors of the defeat of General Hall ck, at Corinth. Upon careful investigation it is ascert that there is no foundation whatever for the report. The news received at the War Department to-day,

but no movement or engagement of importan taken place. The slow and sure movements of Generals Halleck McClellan convince experienced military men here that those Generals believe that the rebels are in great

dated yesterday, from the armics of Generals McClolls

and Halleck, indicate that preparations are going on,

trength immediately in their front As General McClellan is reported to be at Cumberland t would seem that he may make a detour towards Pachnond, instead of marching through the swampy region berland is above White House, on the Pamunkoy river, and the latter place has already been reached by our

transports for a considerable distance up.

Circumstances that have recently transpired, and in formation that has been accurately ascertained, has vindicated the position maintained by General McClellar in regard to the march upon Richmond, and convinced the Cabinet that he was better posted, and had more wisdom in the matter, than all the political Generals who were clamoring for his removal, and importunate for a rapid and headless movement of our army towards Rich

ABRIVAL OF RELEASED AND REBEL PRISONERS AND

In addition to the steamers Hero and Kent, which rought hither the released Union prisoners last night the Kennebec has arrived with upwards of 450 wounded rebels from Williamsburg. These men are for the greater part slightly wounded, and are attended by rebel surgeons and nurses. A strict guard is kept over this boat no visitors are permitted.

The steamer State of Maine also arrived with about

330, the J. P. Warner with 400, and the Elm City with 450 sick and wounded from various Union reg They are being removed to the various hospitals to-day.

THE SICK SOLDIERS.
The gick who arrived to-day in the Elm City, under charge of the sanitary commission, are receiving every attention, and prompt provision has been made for their reception into the bospitals here. The passage was made with comfort. There have arrived within the last

two days about 1,400 of our sick from the South, and thers are soon expected. THE TAX BILLS

THE TAX BILLS.
The impression is gaining ground that Mr. Simmons' schedule of a tax bill will be substituted by the Senate for the House bill. It is stated that although the Finance Committee agreed to report the House Tax bill, a majority of the committee is opposed to it. Mr. Sinusons' bill preserves the machinery of the House bill, but proposes to raise two hun-dred and sixty-six millions of revenue, one hundred to be raised from duties on imports, one ho tax of one-half of one per cent on all sales, and the balance from a tax on spirits, malt liquors, playing cards, tobac co, oils and licenses. These are the only articles specifi-cally taxed. It is generally believed that this programme for a revenue will prevail.

THE CONSERVATIVES AND THE RADICALS. no means an easy time this session. They are kept con-stantly between Scylla and Charybidis—democracy on the one hand and radical abolitionism on the other. Poliical association with either of them would frustrate the patriotic purposes of the conservatives. To avoid the appearance of attempting to organize a distinct politica party, the introduction of resolutions, under the auspices of the recent caucus, has been for the present abandoned. The majority of the conservatives are unwilling to cast themselves into the arms of the democracy, prened invitingly to them, and thus consolidate the reurblican party and reproduce precisely the state of

The radical abolitionists are, however, exerting their itmost ingenuity to effect this result. Their continual atmost ingenuity to effect this result. Their continual with the conservative men of other parties. For the present, however, it is believed that enough of the republicans proper are pledged to oppose the radical mea-mers of the abolition faction to check their contemplated ischievous legislation. The conservatives are anxious to hurry through whatever measures are really neces sary for the maintenance of the government, and a vigor ous prosecution of the war for the Union, and then ad-journ; but the radicals are determined, if possible, to prevent an adjournment, and to keep up sectional on, and even to protract the war for this purpose. They egard with manifest dissatisfaction the rapid progrescently made by the Union armies. It may be reas ably expected that, unless sternly rebuked by the voice of the people, some of these patriots will be found openly be perverted to suit their fanatical purposes All conservative men here are shocked at the sweeping

measures of confiscation proposed by the radicals. They provide substantially for the abolition of slavery, beause slaveholders, for the most part, are considered as rebels by these bills. There are a quarter of a million of laveholders and a quarter of a million of other property xecution of this programme. It is pretended that this pensating for the expenses of the war; but South among an infuriated people to purchase estates. It is proposed, also, to arm the negroes, and in effect make them superior to the million of whites, who are to be deprived of their property. Of course, under such circumstances, there will be no cotton or other crops, nor any demand for Northern manufactures from the

RMANCIPATION IN PLORIDA. Several Florida refugees, who are here, are said to be preparing, under the instructions of Mr. Summer, a memoial to Congress, setting forth a statement that a majority of the people of Florida are in favor of emancipe

EDUCATION OF THE CONTRABANDS. The Northern abolitionists are sending primers and satechisms here to aid in educating the horde of contrabands that is accumulating in this District. Experience at Port Royal showed that the iron spectacied old women made mischief, while compulsory labor by smart over seers could alone make things tolerable.

WHAT THE REPUBLICANS SAY OF SENATOR LANE. Senator Lane, of Kansas, has been under a cloud with everybody since his Kansas "skedaddie." Republicans reely say that, after so much blowing about fighting, his retirement was utterly disgraceful. The Kansas military district being again revived, he has an opportunity to partially recover his lost prestige.

THE REGISTRATION OF NAMES OF PERADS OF PARILIES. A resolution of Congress requires that the Chief of Omiles of the coun ry. The vast fund of an ormation at and in that bureau requires a large, termanent force of

clerks . o answer the inquiries of Congressmen and others ton. hing a great variety of subjects. Information is constantly given concerning persons who have been long lost to the knowledge of near relatives and friends.

THE A 'KW YORK CUSTOM HOUSE. The House Comm. 'ttee on Commerce has reported a bill to facilitate the colles. 'ion of customs in New York and establishing the office or 'Solicitor of Customs, the consistency of the which is post, oned.

COINAGE AT THE NEXT YORK ASSAY OFFICE. Mr. Ward's bill and report, from the Committee on Commerce, in reference to coim we at the Assay Office at New York, will meet with desperate opposition from Pennsylvania members. In order to have control of the bill, and insure action upon it, Mr. Ward desired it to be recommitted to the Committee on Commerce after it has been printed. A strong but unsuccessful eilert has been made to get the bill out of the hands of the Committee on Commerce, and to have it stowed away in the Commit-tee of Ways and Mesns. It remains now under the coutrol of the committee by which it was originated, and may be brought up whenever there is a chance for

HARBOR AND SEA COAST DEFENCES

The report of Mr. Blair, from the House Military Com-mittee on Permanent Fortifications and Sea Coast De-fences, is exhaustive of the subject. It is one of the most interesting documents ever laid before Congress. It comprises a complete history of all the defences of the country, and the various systems that have from time to time been adopted. Appended to the report is the revised report of the Board of Engineers on defences of the seaboard, made by Personal Country. message of the President, with reports of the Secretaries of War and Navy, on the subject of defences, made in 1836; the report of the Secretary of War, on a system of national defence, made in 1840, which also includes a memorial of General Gaines upon military discipline and defences; a report of General Honry W. Hallock, then Lieutenant of Eugineers, upon means of national de-fence; and a report of the Scoretary of War on the subject of fortifications, made in 1851, with accompanying documents. These reports are the ablest treatises upon the subject over written, and many of them are very scarce. This volume will be one of the most valuable compilations ever given to the public. In the bill accompanying the report the committee provide for the organization of a board, to institute a perfect system of permanent national de

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CAPTORS OF NEW ORLEANS. The President has recommended to Congress the passage of a vote of thanks to Captain Farragut, and also to hirty other officers, by name, for their gallantry and services in the capture of forts Jackson and St. Philip and the city of New Orleans, and the destruction of various rams and gunbeats.

NAVAL APPOINTMENTS.

The Navy Department has appointed the following as Acting Masters' Mates:—Benj. F. Ritter, Philadelphia; John L. Robins, Hampton Roads; James Hoggaud, John L. Staples, Washington, and Frederick F. Baurey, Boston. PRAUDS IN THE PAY OF MILEAGE OF CONGRESSMEN.

The investigations of the House Committee on mileage f members has developed the fact that a number of the choicest of the patriots have extravagant ideas of the distance necessary to be travelled from their homes to reach Washington. For the first time in many years the committee have undertaken to estimate the re ravalled. A saving of fifty thousand dollars in this item is the consequence. The committee will, probably, be-fore the close of the session, bring in a bill reducing the rate of mileage allowed, and making it conformable to the increased facilities for locomot

THE WASHINGTON AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD. There has been an immense lobby, including the Tribus. people, touching the City Railway bill, which passed to-day. The small lobbyites, that have been wrigging at winter to get certain names into the bill as corporators. are foiled, but it is anticipated that the big operators from Northern cities will secure all the stock. The bill provides that the stock shall all be subscribed for in fly days, and twenty five per cent be paid in cash, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

shall be appointed by the President to be chief of the new Bureau of Agriculture, shall be an educated man, and one who thoroughly comprehends the theory and practice of agriculture.

News from the West Indies.

MOVEMENTS OF THE ERITISH PLEET—WAB SHIPS
FOR NEW OBLEANS.

[From the Bermuda Royal Gazette, April 29.]
Her Majesty's ship Liffey, honce at Massau, N. P., oa
the 29th March, and left next day on her way to Havana,
Mobile and New Orleans.
She was spoken with on the 5th by Her Majesty's ship
Molpomene on her way from Havana to New Orleans.
Her Majesty's ship Bulldog, Commander McKillop, left
Nassau, N. P., on the 8th instant, on a cruise, in consequence of several vessels which had arrived there having
reported that they had been fired at in the neighborhood
of Absop and the Berry Islands, by vessels not carrying
any colors. The inhabitants of the Bahamas think it
would be better for the federal ships-of war, for they
presume that the vessels alluded to are United State
vessels, if they gave more attention to the blockade c e's, if they gave more attention to the blockade own ports, particularly of those of South Carolin d it to the Bab vessels had arrived at Nassau from that coast—five number had come in laden with cotton, within the

week ending the 9th instant.
We understand that Admiral Milne and family will embark on board the flag ship Nile on Monday next, and proceed to Murray's Anchorage, and leave for Halifax soon after the arrival of the mail due here on the following day. The Admiral will be accompanied by the majority of the ships-of-war now here.

H. M. S. Donegal will leave for England about Tuesday

next.

H. M. screw corvette Jason (21), Captain Von Bonop, from Vera Cruz, arrived here on Tuesday last. In consequence of the Jason having had some cases of yellow fever on board she was ordered by the Admirat to proceed to Halifax, for which place she lett on Wednesday.

H. M. screw steam gunvess! Nimble, Lieutenant

ceed to Halitax, for which place she left on wednesday.

H. M. screw steam gunvessed. Nimble, Lieutenaut.
D'Arcy, arrived on Wednesday morning from Halifax.

Same day H. M. steamer Petrel (11), Commander G.
W. Wats n. from Plymouth.

H. M. screw steamship Sans Parell (70), Captain Bowyear, left on Thursday for England. She took home the marine battalion brought from Moxico.

H. M. steamer Spitcful, Commander Wilson, same day for Ismaics.

or Jamaica.

H. M. paddle wheel steamer Hydra (6), Commander ismilton, left last evening for Halifax. WALLACK'S THEATRE.-The production of Bulwer's celeorated comedy of "Money" at this house last

was a perfect success. The acting of all engaged in the various parts of the play was perfect, and the new dresses and scenery—which to good acting is what condiments are to a fine dish—were really superb. Lester Wallack ably sustained the character of Alfred Evelyn, and Mrs. Hoey's portrait of Clara Douglass was rendered with her usual skill, although she was painfully troubled with a racking cough which she vainly attempted on tirely to suppress. Blake's Benjamin Stout was wel acted, and Charles Fisher's Graves could not easily be surpassed. Mark Smith's Sir John Vesey might have been better if less labored; and the character of the daughter of the poor but avaricious baronet was cleverly personified by Mrs. Sloan. Miss Fanny Morant played the artful widow to perfection, and the character of the fop, Sir Frederick Blount, was not injured by being in the hands of Mr. Floyd. The rest of the characters w properly distributed; and to say that the piece was alto-gether finely played is superfluous, when we consider that it was produced at Wallack's. The reverse would simply be an impossibility under the present managesimply be an impossionly discreted company. The house ment and with their well selected company. The house was attended by a fashionable audience, who appeared to appreciate all the fine points or the author's esceep-tion. To-night Bulwer's "Lady of Lyons" will be per-formed, and to-morrow "Money" is announced to be re-formed, and

Mr. Gottschalk's Last Concert—The last of the series of concerts for which Mr. Gottschalk is engaged to Mr. Grau for the present season is announced for Tuesday next at Nibio's. All the artists of the Opera troups with usist upon this occasion.

PRESTIDIGITATION.-Mr. Herrmann returned to New York on Wednesday last from a long and most succe tour. The only solress that he intends giving here until the fall are one for a Catholic charity and another in aid of the Sanitary Commission.

Solumn Francaisms.—The closing performan ngreeable entertainments takes place this evening at Niblo's Saloon. The places will be "Jobin et Namette." Souffler mot dans Poul" and "La Corde Sensible," ala roellenky cast.

Curious Rebel Ideas of Strategy.

(From the Memphis Avalanche, May 7.)

We learn from an officer, lately from Virginia, that the evacuation of Yorktown—to which the despatch from Richmond in yesterday's issue referred—was not a complete evacuation, but only that our forces had fasten back some five miles, to other intreschments just as strong as those they left behind. So we may expect yet to help of a great battle at or near Yorktown, before Richmondows to federal domination.

Payment of Awards of Canal App The Auditor of the Canal Department is to tany awards made by the Canal Appalar with interest to the 1st instant, awards cease to bear interest.